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DEPT FOR NEA/MAG, PARIS FOR USUNESCO

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [SCUL](#) [UNESCO](#) [MO](#)
SUBJECT: MOROCCO REQUESTS USG SUPPORT FOR UNESCO DIRECTOR
GENERAL CANDIDATE

The Embassy is in receipt of a diplomatic note, dated June 3, number 2342, from the Moroccan Ministry of Foreign Affairs requesting U.S. Government support for the candidacy of Professor Aziza Bennani, Ambassador and Permanent Delegate to the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), for the position of Director General of UNESCO. The full candidate packet will be scanned and emailed to NEA/MAG. A translation of the diplomatic note is appended below.

Begin text:

Complimentary opening.

The Kingdom of Morocco has decided to submit the candidacy of Professor Aziza Bennani, Ambassador and Permanent Delegate of the Kingdom of Morocco to UNESCO, to the position of Director General of this organization during the elections to be held in Paris in October 2009.

Enclosed is the curriculum vitae of Professor Aziza Bennani, a supporting argument to her candidacy, as well as a biography, that underlines her academic profile, career, international experience, and deep knowledge of UNESCO, which make her an excellent candidate for the General Directorate of this prestigious organization.

It should be noted that none of the previous Directors General of UNESCO have belonged to the Arab Group. As a result, and according to the principle of rotation, certainly not included in the texts, but now in force within the Organization, candidatures from this group will be supported. So far, other than Morocco (July 2007), only Egypt has announced its candidacy (August 2007).

Under the leadership of His Majesty King Mohammed VI, Morocco is fully committed to a democratic process. Moreover, it continues resolutely its political, economic and social reforms, whose ultimate goal is to make Morocco a modern, developed and democratic country. The priorities of this major reform project are human development, the fight against poverty, the generalization of education, the promotion of women and children's rights, and consolidation of a national cultural identity.

The Kingdom of Morocco, which fully adheres to multilateralism and which celebrated last November the 50th anniversary of its accession to UNESCO, fully supports the principles and objectives inscribed in its founding Charter, and its mission in favor of peace. Having made a real vocation out of the search for peace, it continues to militate for the values advocated by the United Nations and which are also its own values. It is now convinced of UNESCO's responsibility in the consolidation of democracy,

the promotion of development and the establishment of peace
in the world.

Given all these considerations and our common interests
regarding UNESCO, the Government of Morocco, which fully
supports this candidacy, would particularly appreciate the
support that your Government could bring to it.

Complimentary closing.

End text.

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<http://www.state.sgov.gov/p/nea/rabat>

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